

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17712

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, UR, GW, US

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT'S REPLY TO OPPOSITION MEMBERS'

ATTEMPT TO LINK JACKSON PRESSURES ON USSR

WITH ALLIED APPROACH TO CSCE

REF: BONN 17154 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: REFTEL NOTED THAT BUNDESTAG OPPOSITION MEMBER VON STAUFFENBERG (CSU) HAD ASKED THE GOVERNMENT IF THE FRG WAS PREPARED TO MAKE ANY ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS TO THE USSR DEPENDENT UPON SOVIET CONCESSIONS OVER THE EMIGRATION OF ETHNIC GERMANS. AS AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND HAD REQUESTED, FONOFF STATE SECRETARY MOERSCH MADE A LOW KEY REPLY FOR THE GOVERNMENT. IN IT HE MADE ONLY INDIRECT REFERENCES TO VON STAUFFENBERG'S LINKAGE OF THE ETHNIC GERMAN PROBLEM WITH SENATOR JACKSON'S SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO FACILITATE THE EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS. END SUMMARY

1. THE GOVERNMENT'S SENSIBLE ANSWER TO VON STAUFFENBERG'S SUGGESTION THAT THE WEST MAKE ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS IN BASKET II OF CSCE BE CONTINGENT UPON ACHIEVING FREEDOM OF EMIGRATION FOR CITIZENS OF COMMUNIST STATES IN
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BASKET III WAS THAT CSCE

HAD TO BE LOOKED AT AS A WHOLE. MOERSCH NOTED THAT "IT IS NEITHER POSSIBLE NOR NECESSARY TO SINGLE OUT INDIVIDUAL COMPLEXES OR CONSTRUCT DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THEM IN THESE GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS."

2. ON THE MORE GENERAL QUESTION

MOERSCH REFERRED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER TO THE GRAND INTERPELLATION (BONN 16473). HE WENT ON TO STATE: "THE WESTERN COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN CSCE CONSIDER THE SOLUTION OF HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS TO BE AN ESSENTIAL FACTOR IN THE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE DETENTE PROCESS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CSCE. JOINTLY WITH ITS ALLIES, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS ALL INITIATIVES WITHIN CSCE TO BRING ABOUT AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE RESTRICTIVE EMIGRATION PRACTICES OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES. THIS APPLIES TO PERSONAL TRAVEL IN GENERAL, BUT ESPECIALLY TO FAMILY REUNIFICATION, TO VISITS OF RELATIVES AND TO MARRIAGES. IT IS PROBABLY APPROPRIATE IN THIS CONTEXT TO POINT OUT THAT AGREEMENTS ON THE REUNION OF FAMILIES WILL ALSO PROFIT JEWISH EMIGRANTS WHOSE NEXT-OF-KIN LIVE IN ONE OF THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE CSCE NEGOTIATIONS. APART FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, THESE INCLUDE THE U.S. AND CANADA."

3. IN A SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION VON STAUFFENBERG ASKED IF THE SUBJECT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED DURING CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S VISIT TO MOSCOW. MOERSCH REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND REFERRED TO THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER THE VISIT.

4. COMMENT: OUTSIDE OF THIS INDIRECT REFERENCE NOTED IN PARA 2 ABOVE, THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT REFER TO THE JACKSON AMENDMENT. THUS THE FRG APPEARS TO HAVE TAKEN TO HEART U.S. ADVICE THAT ANY REFERENCE TO SENATOR JACKSON'S SUCCESS WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE IN ITS ATTEMPTS TO SECURE INCREASED EMIGRATION POSSIBILITIES FOR ETHNIC GERMANS. HILLENBRAND

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